

It is women like Ms. Douglas who make the United States what it is today. Their commitment to their communities and to their country continues to bring our Nation closer to realizing the ideals on which it was founded.

Mr. Speaker, as we commemorate the women who have shaped our history, I remind my colleagues that while the month of March may come to an end, the fight for equality continues for our daughters, sisters, and mothers.

TRIBUTE TO ZACHARIAH JOHN
McDOWELL

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 21, 2013

Mr. LATHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and recognize Urbandale police officer Zachariah McDowell for his lifesaving efforts in the line of duty.

On Sunday evening, March 10th, 2013, Officer McDowell was on a routine patrol of Urbandale, Iowa when he responded to a report of a burning car in the parking lot of a nearby church. As Zac approached the car to investigate, he could make out only a human hand amid the consuming smoke that filled the vehicle. Officer McDowell wasted no time smashing in the passenger side window with his metal baton, entering the burning vehicle, and dragging the young accident victim to safety. There is no doubt that Officer McDowell's quick thinking and heroic actions saved a young man's life that snowy night.

Officer McDowell's entire professional life has been one of service and sacrifice. He began his law enforcement career by serving in the Iowa Army National Guard where he was recognized as the Iowa Soldier of the Year in 2006. Officer McDowell was honorably discharged from the military as a Staff Sergeant in 2011, after 12 years of service and two separate deployments to Kosovo in 2003 and Iraq in 2007. Today, Zac is a model member of the Urbandale Police Department and resides in Urbandale with his wife of seven years, Nichole, and their two children, Wesley and Maggie.

Mr. Speaker, Officer McDowell's instinct and brave actions to save a fellow Iowan embody the selfless attributes we all should strive for. His extraordinary display of heroism should give us all pause as we offer gratitude to the police officers across the country who put their own welfare at risk to make our streets and neighborhoods safer. It is a great honor to represent Officer McDowell and the City of Urbandale in the United States Congress, and I invite my colleagues in the House to join me in congratulating and thanking Officer McDowell for his outstanding performance and courage when it truly mattered most.

MARKING 192 YEARS OF GREEK
INDEPENDENCE

HON. NITA M. LOWEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 21, 2013

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in celebration of the 192nd anniversary of Greek

independence. I am proud to join the Congressional Caucus on Hellenic Issues in saluting the Greek people for their valiant struggle in winning independence for their nation 192 years ago and in re-affirming the bonds between our two great nations and people.

On March 25, we mark the anniversary of the revolution that liberated Greece from the Ottoman Empire. As we do so, we honor the struggle and perseverance of those Greeks who believed in their right to govern themselves and willingly laid their lives on the line as they fought for democracy. The proud democratic traditions and philosophies of Ancient Greek civilization have served as a light of inspiration to many people and nations throughout history, including our own nation's founders.

For centuries, America and Greece have built an enduring partnership based on shared values. The countless contributions of the Greek people, both to their own country and as immigrants to the United States, and in my home state of New York, continue to leave an indelible mark on our two nations.

As with our own Independence Day, this anniversary of the birth of modern Greece reminds us of the sacrifices made by those who risk—and sometimes lose—everything in pursuit of the ideals and ways of life they hold most dear.

Today, in solidarity with Greece, we reaffirm those values and ideals and honor our freedom, democracy, and friendship with the Greek people.

INTRODUCING THE MARCH FOR
MILITARY WOMEN ACT

HON. LOUISE McINTOSH SLAUGHTER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 21, 2013

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to introduce the Military Access to Reproductive Care and Health, MARCH, for Military Women Act, legislation that will help our servicewomen gain the same access to reproductive health services as all other American women. It is deeply unfair that women who put their lives on the line for this country are denied the rights of the Constitution that they honorably defend.

Recent changes in policy have brought the treatment of military women more in line with the rest of women in America by allowing insurance coverage of abortion in the case of rape or incest. However, servicewomen are still not permitted to pay privately—using their own personal funds—for an abortion under any other circumstances. This policy is discriminatory, denying women in the military a Constitutionally protected right. Furthermore, it endangers the health of our servicewomen, who depend on their base hospitals for medical care, especially in countries where local facilities are inadequate or unavailable. More than 200,000 women (active service members, spouses, and dependents of military personnel) live on military bases overseas and rely on military hospitals for their health care.

Prohibiting access to abortions on military bases means that servicewomen may be forced to rely on unsafe local facilities. Failing that, a servicewoman would need to request permission from her supervisor to leave her

combat mission and return to the United States. This impairs the readiness of our forces who are quite literally on the front lines, and it should not be allowed to continue. Our servicewomen deserve the right to determine their own destiny, without risking their health unnecessarily.

I want to be clear that if this bill became law, no taxpayer dollars would be spent for abortion care at overseas military facilities, and the military's current "conscience clauses" would remain intact so that no doctor would be forced to provide abortion care against their will. Passage of this bill would simply mean that our military women have the same rights as all other American women when it comes to reproductive health services. It is an issue of equality and fairness.

Our servicewomen deserve to be treated as full equals, and to have the same access to safe reproductive health care as any other American woman. I urge my colleagues to stand with me and support the MARCH for Military Women Act.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. KAY GRANGER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 21, 2013

Ms. GRANGER. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 55 I missed the vote due to an illness. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye."

KEN SIMPSON—A NORTH
CAROLINA AND AMERICAN HERO

HON. HOWARD COBLE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 21, 2013

Mr. COBLE. Mr. Speaker, if somehow America could combine in one human being all the qualities we admire in our fighting men—bravery, strength, skill, determination, loyalty, patriotism, and compassion for his fellow soldier—since the middle of the 20th century—its name would have been Kenneth Walton Simpson of North Carolina.

The list of men and women to whom America owes a debt of gratitude is long indeed, and prominent on that list is Kenneth Simpson.

This is a small expression of that gratitude to this honest-to-goodness American fighting man who, now an octogenarian, spent 23 years serving this country as a soldier, who performed his duties gallantly and with remarkable heroism, then retired without the array of military decorations that perhaps should have adorned the last uniform he wore.

The essence of this fighting man has been captured in a new book, *Warrior: From Grenades to Greeting Cards, the True Story of an American Fighting Man*, by North Carolina author Wilt Browning. Wilt is my constituent and friend and a noted journalist and author.

Simpson's story is the stuff of heroism, American style. It is as though he was from childhood destined to be a fighting man, and in his post-military career his fighting spirit remarkably wound up shaping an American industry in the second half of the century.